THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, February 7, 1803.

Singular Inſtances of the Sagacity of Elephants.

[From " Animal Biography;" by the Rev. W. Bingley, A. B.]

A Soldier at Pondicherry was accuſtomed to give a certain quantity of arrack to one of theſe animals, every time he got his pay; and having one day intoxicated himſelf, and being purſued by the guard, who wanted to put him in priſon, he took refuge under the elephant, and there fell faſt aſleep. The guard in vain attempted to drag him from this aſylum, for the elephant defended him with its trunk. Next day the ſoldier having recovered from his intoxication, was in dreadful apprehenſions when he found himſelf under the belly of this enormous animal. The elephant, which unqueſtionably perceived his terror, relieved his fears by immediately careſſing him with its trunk.

The following inſtance of the ſagacity of theſe animals was mentioned to Dr. Darwin by ſome gentlemen of diſtinct obſervation, and undoubted veracity, who had been much converſant with our eaſtern ſettlements. The elephants that are uſed to carry the baggage of our armies, are put each under the care of one of the natives of Indoſtan, and while this perſon and his wife go into the woods to collect leaves and branches of trees for his food, they fix him to the ground by a length of chain, and frequently leave a child, yet unable to walk, under his protection: and the intelligent animal not only defends it, but, as it creeps about, when it arrives near the extremity of his chain, he wraps his trunk gently round its body, and brings it again into the centre of his circle.

In the laſt war, a young elephant received a violent wound in its head, the pain of which rendered it ſo frantic and ungovernable, that it was found impoſſible to perſuade the animal to have

it dreſſed; whenever any one approached it, it ran off with fury, and would ſuffer no perſon to come within ſeveral yards of it. The man who had the care of it at length hit upon a contrivance for ſecuring it: by a few words and ſigns he gave the mother of the animal ſufficient intelligence of what was wanted, the ſenſible creature immediately ſeized her young one with her trunk, and held it firmly down, though groaning with agony, while the ſurgeon completely dreſſed the wound: and ſhe continued to perform this ſervice every day till the animal was perfectly recovered.

In the Philoſophical Tranſactions a ſtory is related of an elephant having ſuch an attachment for a very young child, that he was never happy but when it was near him. The nurſe uſed, therefore, very frequently to take the child in its cradle, and place it between his feet, and this he became at length ſo much accuſtomed to, that he would never eat his food except when it was preſent. When the child ſlept he uſed to drive off the flies with his proboſcis, and when it cried he would move the cradle backward and forward, and thus again rock it to ſleep.

A centinel belonging to the preſent menagerie at Paris was always very careful in requeſting the ſpectators not to give the elephants any thing to eat. This conduct particularly diſpleaſed the female, who beheld him with a very unfavourable eye, and had ſeveral times endeavoured to correct his interference by beſprinkling his head with water from her trunk. One day, when ſeveral perſons were collected to view theſe animals, a byeſtander offered the female a bit of bread, the centinel perceived it, but the moment he opened his mouth to give his uſual admonition, ſhe, placing herſelf immediately before him, diſcharged in his face a conſiderable ſtream of water. A general laugh enſued; but the centinel, having calmly wiped his face, ſtood a little to one ſide, and continued as vigilant as before. Soon afterward he found himſelf under the neceſſity of repeating his admonition to the ſpectators, but no ſooner was this uttered than the female laid hold of his muſket, twirled it round with her trunk, trod it under her feet, and did not reſtore it till ſhe had twiſted it into the form of a ſcrew.

M. Navarette ſays, that at Maccaſar, an elephant-driver had a cocoa-nut given him, which he, out of wantonneſs, ſtruck twice againſt his elephant's forehead to break. The day following the animal ſaw ſome cocoa-nuts expoſed in the ſtreet for ſale, and taking one of them up with his trunk, beat it about his driver's head, till the man was completely dead.—" This comes (ſays our author) of jeſting with elephants."

ADELA:

ADELA: An Helvetic Story.

(Continued from Page 88.)

"THE friends of this deſpicable young man were exaſperated, and called for vengeance upon the ill-fated author of his death; and, in ſpite of the intereſt that was made to prevent it, you have beheld the puniſhment to which he unfortunately is doomed to ſubmit. The amiable young creature, who was the innocent cauſe of his calamity, regularly viſits him every day. I contrive that theſe tender interviews ſhall never be interrupted, and when the hours of labour terminate, invite them to my houſe.—Then, Sir, I have the happineſs of laying aſide the maſter, and ſhowing myſelf in the character of an unfortunate man's friend; there, again, he every evening enjoys the ſociety of his daughter, and during that period he ſeems to acquire a degree of inward peace.—But when the moment comes that ſhe takes her departure (for I even break through my orders, by allowing them ſo frequently to meet), he yields to that deſponding kind of melancholy which I fear will end in derangement of mind."

"Heaven will reward you, Sir, ſaid I, "for ſuch humanity and benevolence; but can neither intereſt or exertion mitigate the diſgrace? I would give half my fortune," I exclaimed, with an ardour that ſeemed to delight my companion, "to be able to releaſe him from theſe degrading chains!" I had ſcarcely made this declaration, when I perceived Mr. Leſſington at my elbow, who clapping me upon the ſhoulder, declared it was ſpoken with "the true ſpirit of youth."—"But," continued he, "may I aſk who has called forth all this ardour, and excited ſo warm an intereſt in your breaſt?"

I related the circumſtances, which I had juſt heard from the humane overſeer, with all that enthuſiaſtic energy they were calculated to inſpire, and was delighted at perceiving, by Mr. Leſſington's countenance, that they had excited a lively intereſt in his mind.—"Do you ſuppoſe it poſſible, Sir," ſaid he, addreſſing our humane informer, "that any thing can be done to ſerve this ill fated man? For we have letters of recommendation to the firſt perſons in this country; and to ſome of them my pupil is nearly allied, From the family of——" continued he, "for example, naming a nobleman of diſtinction, who at that time filled one of the firſt offices in the ſtate, he has a right to expect every attention, for they are very cloſely related on his mother's ſide."

"Is it poſſible! exclaimed our humane companion, with marks of viſible aſtoniſhment in his face: "we will, if you pleaſe, Sir, take an opportunity of diſcourſing upon this ſubject at a more favourable time; at preſent I am obliged to attend to

my duty, but I will wait upon you with permiſſion this evening about nine."—Though there was ſomething peculiar in his manner, when my tutor mentioned the name of the family to whom I was allied, yet my mind was too much occupied in the ſtranger's misfortunes to pay any particular attention to what he ſaid, and I felt the utmoſt impatience for the arrival of the hour of meeting, which the benevolent man had named.

Though Mr. Leſſington was leſs anxious, yet the humanity of his diſpoſition made him likewiſe participate in my deſires, and, during the evening, we alternately examined our watches, impatiently looking forward to the appointed time.—At length it arrived; our gueſt was punctual, and I began the converſation, by enquiring whether he did not think our intereſt might be of uſe; and was a little mortified at hearing him requeſt my tutor to retire for a few minutes into another room. How to account for this ſingular behaviour was impoſſible: why he ſhould adopt ſecrecy, after having communicated the affair to me, was a circumſtance which I could by no means reconcile, but I was ſtill more aſtoniſhed, in about half an hour, to find they had left the houſe.

My imagination was perfectly on the rack to diſcover the cauſe of this extraordinary conduct, but at length I attributed it to my tutor's fears; and concluded that he had imagined the intereſt I had diſplayed for the unfortunate father had ariſen from feeling a ſudden affection for his child.—Hurt, as I was, at the idea of this having been his opinion, I began inſtantly to examine the ſtate of my heart, and aſk myſelf whether it was poſſible that a mere glance of the lovely mourner could have been capable of inſpiring a paſſion in my breaſt!—That her figure ſeemed to have been formed by the hand of the graces, and that her countenance was more lovely than any I had ever beheld, were truths which merely proved ſhe had occupied my attention, without convincing me that ſhe had excited either my love or eſteem.—I knew that beauty always made an appeal to the paſſions, and imperceptibly excited an intereſt in the heart, but previous to my beholding Adela, I had felt ſolicitous about her father, and deſirous of giving him ſome proof of my regard!

For near two hours I was left to the indulgence of theſe ſenſations, when I had the pleaſure of ſeeing Mr. Leſſington return. "Well, my young friend," ſaid he, "I ſuppoſe you have thought my conduct rather extraordinary, but I was anxious to ſee your unfortunate friend!"—"And have you ſeen the lovely Adela?" I enquired, with an eagerneſs irreſtrainable." "Yes," replied he, coolly, "indeed I have, but I cannot help being aſtoniſhed at finding you ſo warmly intereſted in the fate of a young woman, who may be unworthy of regard."

"Unworthy!" I exclaimed; "why, her filial fondneſs to her father is ſufficient to prove the injuſtice of the thought."—

"To

"To her want of filial duty," he replied, with some severity, "her father has become amenable to the laws! Do you not allow that this divinity was extremely culpable in receiving the addresses of a man, whom mere accident introduced, unsanctioned by a parent, who had uniformly studied to promote the interest and happiness of her life?"—"We must not, my dear fellow," continued he, softening his accent, "suffer our passions to mislead our sense. The young lady in question, is certainly very beautiful, but doubtless has been guilty of a most palpable offence. We will now, however, if you please, turn the subject to her father, whose name, though concealed, I have contrived to find out, and since the discovery, feel that his misfortunes have created a double interest in my heart."

"Good God!" I exclaimed, "surely he is not my relation! If he is, I implore you to tell me his name. Oh! I will move heaven and earth to release him, and unlock those degrading, those despicable chains!"

"That ardour which you feel," replied Mr. Lessington, "must be tempered by a little prudence, or you will destroy your design; he has unfortunately transgressed the laws of his country, and it is not in the power of a young man, like you, to have them repealed."

He then told me, that as soon as he discovered Mr. S—— was my relation, he requested his generous informer to let him go to his house, where they had been discussing a plan for obtaining his liberty, but intended writing an account of it to my father, to know whether it was approved. The scheme which they had formed was that he should cross the Alps into Italy, and take up his residence in the country of the Milanese; for as his person was unknown to all the count's relations, he had not any thing to dread from the idea of being seen.—England had at first been suggested as a proper sanctuary, but Mr. Lessington thought, that if ever we were seen together we might be implicated in his escape; and to prevent all suspicion of connivance falling upon the generous overseer, it was determined, that, before the other culprits, he should change his mode of address; and the next day, when the gentle Adela was as usual to go to her father, he was sternly to say, that he would not allow them to meet.

It is impossible for me to describe the various emotions with which I listened to my tutor's interesting tale; but the delight which I felt at finding Adela was my relation, it is absolutely impossible for me to describe.—That I might touch her hand, was the pleasing idea that presented itself to my enraptured mind—but, not satisfied with this, I thought, as her cousin, I might venture to press it to my heart.—Oh! there was extasy in the bare reflection, and I was anxious to enjoy it unobserved!—I therefore soon took leave of my tutor, pretending I found myself fatigued; but the image of my new-found relation

haunted

haunted me, and prevented my eyes from closing in sleep!—The day I thought never would have terminated, for Mr. Lessington had promised to introduce me to these dear connections as soon as the clock had struck nine, an hour at which all the unfortunate culprits were separately confined.

Never had I taken such pains to adorn my person; never had I before experienced the torturing tardiness of time; and never had I before tried to conceal from my worthy tutor the varying emotions which agitated my mind!—At length the period arrived which I so ardently wished for, and our watches jointly proclaimed the hour of nine.—My pulse beat—my heart palpitated—and my countenance must have betrayed the situation of my mind!

If I had been struck with the appearance of my relation, under the pressure of his ignominious burden, how much more must I have been with the elegance of his deportment, when no longer sinking beneath its weight.—His reception of me was at once elegant and tender, yet I gazed round the room with eager anxious eyes in the hope of beholding her, who had excited sensations, which had hitherto been entire strangers to my breast.—After waiting some little time in the torture of expectation, I said, "that I had flattered myself with the hope of seeing our other friend, who, from the trait I had witnessed of filial fondness, had excited a lively interest in my heart."

"My Adela was informed," he replied, "that I was to be honoured with your company this evening, and therefore paid her accustomed visit at an earlier hour; for since the first moment of her father's ignominious sufferings she refuses even seeing her most intimate friends; she has changed her name, and lives with an old servant, on whose secrecy and fidelity she can perfectly confide."

This unexpected reply from Mr. S—— completely destroyed all the sanguine hopes I had entertained, and it was with the utmost difficulty I could conceal the mortification which the intelligence had produced. After about half an hour spent in expressions of gratitude on the part of my relation, and in declarations of esteem and friendship from Mr. Lessington and myself, I quitted a house which I had entered with the most lively emotions, in a most disconsolate frame of mind.—To have an interview with Adela, I was absolutely determined, but it was not so easy to decide how I should accomplish this design; for I could not help fancying, by the behaviour of my tutor, that he was the cause of our not having met.

The amiable man, who had proved himself such a friend to the afflicted, I was fearful of consulting upon the affair, lest he should betray the confidence I had reposed in him, or discover the real state of my heart.—At length I resolved to wait patiently till the next evening, then conceal myself near the house

of the overſeer, watch the moment when my fair couſin viſited her father, and follow her footſteps when ſhe returned.—Fortunately, I was not again deſtined to diſappointment, for I had the happineſs of ſeeing her approach at the ſame hour, accompanied by an elderly woman, who walked backward and forward near the houſe until ſhe came out.—" You are too good to me, Jennet;" ſaid the amiable creature, taking her aſſociate by the arm; " why would you not come in? I have a thouſand apprehenſions, leaſt you ſhould ſuffer from being expoſed to the night air!"—" Angel of pity!" I exclaimed involuntarily, but not in accents loud enough to be heard, and purſuing the dear object of my fondneſs and ſolicitude, I perceived her ſtop at a ſmall houſe at the corner of the next ſtreet.—Jennet immediately took a key from her pocket, and in leſs than a minute they vaniſhed from my ſight: I had obtained, however, a knowledge of their reſidence, and this was ſufficient to inſpire a ſenſation of delight.

(To be concluded in our next.)

Contentment in humble Life preferable to Riches, exemplified in a late remarkable Occurrence.

A Singular proof of the propriety of the old adage, that uſe is ſecond nature, has recently occurred in the village of Ewell, in Surrey. A man named Abel, originally of promiſing expectations, having loſt an eſtate to which he was entitled by the colluſion of an attorney, went into Germany, where he reſided ſome time as an organ-builder, and, on his return, ſettled in Ewell as a journeyman carpenter, which humble occupation he chearfully carried on undiſturbed by the chimerical viſions of wealth or ambition. Contented with his earnings, and happy in moderate independence and the eſtimation of his neighbours, he exiſted in the unvaried routine of diurnal labour and evening repoſe—when, about a month ſince, a gentleman of the law, who is an honour to the profeſſion, as uniting the ſoundeſt knowledge with the moſt incorruptible integrity, being appriſed of the poor carpenter's claims, exerted himſelf with ſuch ability and perſeverance, that a decree reverſing the former has been obtained, and a few days ago the aſtoniſhed Abel came up to town to take poſſeſſion of an eſtate conſiſting of houſes ſituate in Roſemary-lane and environs, eſtimated, in annual value, to conſiderably exceed ten thouſand pounds!

At firſt the fortunate hero of this article conceived himſelf the happieſt of men; for a time the novelty of wealth amuſed him, but growing fatigued by the unuſual ſcene in which he was embarked, and liſtleſs for want of his accuſtomed occupation, he

he has ſince returned to Ewell (ſuch is the prevalence of habit), and having experienced the inefficacy of mere riches conferring happineſs, enjoys, in the exerciſe of his former humble, yet temperate employment, that true felicity which muſt ever reſult from a ſtate devoid of the anxiety of care, and free from the corroding torments of *ennui*.

In the courſe of the previous inveſtigation, it was requiſite to ſearch the cathedral of Wincheſter for ſome title deeds appertaining to the eſtate, which had lain there ſince the uſurpation of Cromwell; one of the moſt material of which, after a laborious ſearch, was diſcovered wrapt round an ordinary quart bottle!

Mr. Abel, in gratitude and eſteem for the inhabitants of Ewell, has generouſly promiſed to adorn the church by the valuable preſent of a very elegant organ.

Deſcription of the Life Boat, with Remarks on its great Utility.

NEXT to the diſcovery of the efficacy of vaccine inoculation, the moſt important invention which has diſtinguiſhed the preſent age is that of the LIFE BOAT—a truly ſimple contrivance which renders man MASTER OF THE SEAS.

Mr. GREATHEAD, the inventor, ſtates, that from the following idea he had conceived the principle of his invention, viz. Take a ſpheroid, and divide it into quarters, each quarter then becomes elliptical, and nearly reſembles the half of a wooden bowl, having a curvature with projecting ends; this, he ſays, if thrown into the ſea *cannot be upſet, or lie with the bottom upwards.*

CONSTRUCTION.

The boat to be built from a given length. The breadth is one third of the length, with both ends alike. The keel of the boat is a plank bearing a proportional breadth in the midſhips, narrowing towards the ends to the thickneſs of the bottom of the ſtems, and forming a convex downwards. The ſtems are the ſegment of a circle with a conſiderable rake. The bottom ſection to the floorheads is a curve with the ſweep of the keel. The floor has a ſmall riſe from the keel to the floor-head, curving. A bilge plank is worked on each ſide, next the floor-head with a double rabbit groove, of a thickneſs nearly ſimilar to the keel, on the outſide of which are fixed two bilge-trees, correſponding nearly on a level with the keel. The ends of the bottom ſection form the part of the cable bow, more elliptical to the top, projecting conſiderably, each end the ſame. The ſides, from the floor-heads to the top of gun-wale, flaunch on each ſide in proportion to nearly half the breadth. The breadth of

the boat is continued well towards the ends, leaving a ſufficient length of ſtrait ſide at the top. The ſhear is regular along the ſtraight ſide, and more elevated towards the ends. The gunwale is fixed on the outſide. The outſide is caſed with cork the whole length of the regular ſhear from the under part of the gunwale to twenty-three inches down the depth of the ſide the cork has ſeveral thickneſſes, ſo as to project at top a little without the gunwale, and is ſecured with plates of copper. The thwarts are five in number, all ſtauntioned, and row, double banked, with ten oars. The oars are ſhort, fixed by iron thole pins, and ſlung with grummets to enable the rowers to pull either way. The boat is ſteered by an oar, at either end; and the ſteering oar is one third longer than the rowing one. The platform, in the bottom, is placed horizontally. The length of the midſhips and the ſides, from the bottom to the under part of the thwarts, is caſed with cork. At the ends, the platforms are more elevated, for the convenience of the ſteerſman, and to give him a greater command of power with the oars.

PRACTICAL REMARKS.

The curving keel and bottom permit the boat to be turned with facility; ſhe is kept more eaſily in equilibrium than any other ſhape; is more eaſily ſteered, and ſafer among the breakers: the great rake of the ſtems, and fine entrance below, forming part of the cable bow. This conſtruction is ſuperior to all others in a high ſea and broken water; and, with the projection to the top of the gunwale, is the means, when the boat is conducted to head the ſea, of dividing the waves which generally break into a common boat. The breadth, being continued well to the ends, ſupports the boat when rowing againſt the waves. And, both ends being ſimilar, ſhe is always in a poſition to be rowed either way without turning. The addition of the ſtaunchions, under the thwarts, admit the boatmen to act with a firmer force; and, in the inſtance of the boat's ſtriking the ground, the weight of the men, by the communication of the ſtaunchions, will, in ſome degree, reſiſt the ſhock. The advantage of a ſhort oar in a high ſea is obvious. It is more manageable, and permits the rower to keep his ſeat; but the long oar in the midſt of agitated waves would be unwieldy, and the ſtroke frequently uncertain. The cork on the outſide is a moſt excellent defence, and diſplaces a large column of water. And it has been proved by experience, to float the boat with the principal part of her bottom ſtove and looſe. The great projection of the cork alſo on the outſide prevents her being overturned. The beſt method of conducting the boat is to head the ſea; which, from her conſtruction, aided by the force of the oars, will launch her over the water with rapidity without taking in any water.

The perſon who ſteers the boat ſhould be well acquainted with the courſe of the tides, in order to take every poſſible advan-

tage; and great care ſhould be taken, in approaching the wreck, that the boat be not damaged, as there is frequently a ſtrong reflux of the ſea near the wreck; when the wind blows to the land, the boat will return to the ſhore before the wind and ſea, without any other effort than ſteering.

INTERESTING EXTRACTS.

[From Wilyams's Voyage to the Mediterranean.]

"OUR principal objects of reſearch, while we remained at Syracuſe to procure freſh water, were the catacombs or burying-places of the ancient Syracuſans. We were conducted by an old capuchin friar into theſe celebrated tombs, and were obliged at the entrance to creep on our hands and knees, but we ſoon found it ſufficiently lofty. The ſtreets and alleys into which theſe vaults are cut, croſs each other in every direction, and had our guide extinguiſhed his torch, we muſt have remained in this diſmal abode till relieved by the hand of death, as it would be very difficult for a ſtranger to find his way out even with a light, without it, impoſſible. At certain diſtances we came to large round chambers, whoſe dome-like roof admitted a ſmall portion of light and air from an aperture in the upper part. The walls of theſe rooms were covered with a ſort of ſtucco, and round them were placed, in uniform directions, a number of ſtone coffins like thoſe we ſaw on each ſide of the alleys. Theſe were excavated from the ſolid rock, and of various dimenſions, ſome appearing ſcarcely large enough for a new-born infant. We were informed that ſkeletons had been found in ſome of them, with a piece of money in their jaws; perhaps, to pay the ferryman of the Styx for their paſſage to the regions of Pluto.

"We next proceeded to a monaſtery of capuchins ſituated on an eminence near the ſea. It is a neat and airy building, placed on a barren rock, without any appearance of vegetation near it. But no ſooner had we paid our reſpects to the reverend fathers, than we were conducted by them into ſubterraneous gardens, where verdure and vegetation flouriſhed in the higheſt degree. The ſcene appeared like enchantment; nor could we at firſt deviſe the cauſe of it, till, on examination, we diſcovered that we were on the ſame ſort of excavations as the latomire we had before viſited. By labour and cultivation, the ground, rendered rich and productive, is become a luxuriant orchard of orange, lemon, and olive trees.

"The undercroft or cemetry of this monaſtery contains as curious a ſcene as any we had yet witneſſed. We entered it by a flight of ſteps through a trap-door in the nave of the chapel,

chapel, and found it as light as the place we had juſt left, having windows in the vaulted roof. But our attention was immediately called off from other matters by an aſſemblage of venerable perſonages arranged along the wall, in niches formed for the purpoſe: they were all dreſſed in the habit of Saint Francis, and, at firſt ſight, had the appearance of life: but on cloſe examination their ſkin appeared dry, ſhrivelled, and as hard as wood: ſome of them had been dead for near two centuries; many of them were decorated with long flowing beards, others had none: whether fallen off by time, or the faſhion of the age they lived in, I cannot ſay; the monks of the preſent day being diſtinguiſhed by a profuſion of that ornament. Beſides the bodies of the monks, we ſaw thoſe of the nobility and gentry who could afford the expence of this mode of ſepulture; for the worthy monks do not permit the intruſion of unhallowed laity into their ſociety, without receiving, beſides the entrance fee, a handſome yearly compenſation for it, which is paid in various ways. Some contribute annually a wax candle of many pounds weight; and ſhould any omiſſion of the payment occur, the unfortunate anceſtor of the defaulter is turned out of his place to make room for another. Theſe ſtrangers are generally habited in their beſt ſuits, and are laid in boxes with lids, faſtened by locks which were opened for our inſpection: ſome of them had bag-wigs, ruffles, and laced coats, and preſented a very frightful ſatire on human vanity. No ladies are admitted in this ſilent party. The ornaments of this ſolemn repoſitory are entirely appropriate: round the cornices and over the altar, which has a crucifix on it, are ſkulls and croſs-bones, and over the entrance to the chapel is this motto—*Commune mori, mors nulli parcit honori.*"

In a viſit which the author paid, in company with Lord Nelſon, Sir William and Lady Hamilton, &c. to a more capacious cemetry of this kind near Palermo, and in which the number of bodies amounted, as he was informed, to no leſs than 5000, he gives ſome account of the manner of preparing them to reſiſt the ravages of time.

"Our conductor (he ſays), ſhewed us a door of the oven in which theſe bodies were dried, and would fain have invited the ladies to ſee the proceſs; but on entering, they haſtily retired; and well they might, for the firſt object that ſaluted their eyes was the body of a fat officer who had died only the day before as he was on duty at the Mole. I wiſhed to know ſomething of the proceſs, but could not underſtand it: the body was extended on a low ſtove, and covered with a ſheet, ſeemingly preparatory to the operation. When the body is properly prepared, the door of the oven is carefully cloſed, ſo as to admit none of the external air. After remaining ſix months in this place, it is ſufficiently dried to be placed in the niche or coffin, as required;

the ſkin then appears dry, ſhrivelled, and hard, apparently of the ſubſtance of tanned leather.

"While on the Egyptian coaſt," ſays Mr. Wilyams, "we had frequent communications with the enemy. At one time the commander in chief ſent two officers to offer us a ſupply of vegetables: from our long cruize on this inhoſpitable coaſt, he concluded we muſt be in want of ſuch refreſhments, yet we had the ingratitude to think that his civility was only a cover for his curioſity.

"In the courſe of converſation after dinner, one of them remarked, that we had made uſe of unfair weapons during the late action, by which, probably, the admiral's ſhip l'Orient was burnt, and that General Bonaparte had expreſſed great indignation at it. In proof of this aſſertion he ſtated, that in the late gun-boat attacks, their camp had been twice on fire, occaſioned by balls of unextinguiſhable matter fired from one of the Engliſh boats. Captain Hallowell inſtantly ordered the gunner to bring up ſome of thoſe balls, and aſked him whence he had them. To the confuſion of the accuſers, he related that they were found on board of the Spartiate, one of the ſhips captured on the firſt of Auguſt.

"As theſe balls were diſtinguiſhed by particular marks, though in other reſpects alike, the captain ordered an experiment to be made, in order to aſcertain the nature of them.

"The next morning I accompanied Mr. Parr, the gunner, to the iſland of Aboukir; the firſt we tried proved to be a fire-ball, out of what materials compoſed, we could not aſcertain. As it did not explode, which at firſt we apprehended, we rolled it into the ſea, where it continued to burn under water, a black pitch ſubſtance exuding from it till only an iron ſkeleton of a ſhell remained. The whole had been carefully cruſted over with a ſubſtance that gave it the appearance of a perfect ſhell. On ſetting fire to the fuſee of the other, which was differently marked, it burſt into many pieces; though ſomewhat alarmed, fortunately none of us were hurt.

"People account differently for the fire that happened on board the French admiral; but why may it not have ariſen from ſome of theſe fireballs left, perhaps careleſsly on the poop or cabin where it firſt broke out? and what confirms my opinion on this head is, that ſeveral pieces of ſuch ſhells were found ſticking in the Bellerophon, which ſhe moſt probably received from the firſt fire of l'Orient."

CURIOUS DISCOVERY *of* MURDER.

AMONG the many inſtances of this deſcription, there is one recorded by the venerable Plutarch, which deſerves to be remembered,

remembered, as exhibiting the wonderful attachment and fidelity of a dog—the animal which has ſo properly been called the friend of man. A ſoldier of King Pyrrhus being murdered, his dog would by no means quit the dead body, except when the king approached: and then he would leave it a little diſtance, and fawn upon the king, as it were entreating help at his hand. Upon obſerving this, the king commanded all the army to paſs by in good order, two and two, till at length the murderers came; and then the dog flew upon them ſo fiercely, that he would have torn them to pieces; and turning to the king, ran again upon the murderers. The murderers were taken, and examined, and, at length confeſſing the fact, received condign puniſhment.

INTERESTING TRIAL.

COURT of EXCHEQUER, Jan. 28.

Before the BARONS.

JARRETT, *v.* BOVETT.

MR. PLOMER ſtated, that this was a bill filed by the Rev. Mr. Jarrett, vicar of the vicarage and chapelry of Wellington, in Somerſetſhire, againſt the defendant, one of the pariſhioners of the pariſh of Wellington, to recover the full value of the tythe of hay, and the predial and mixed tythes, which, as ſuch pariſhioner, he was bound to pay to the vicar. The plaintiff had, in the year 1791, been inducted to the vicarage and chapelry, and immediately after he was inveſted with the vicarial rights—he gave notice to the defendant, that he ſhould expect to receive his tythes in kind—the defendant, as well as the other inhabitants of the pariſh, inſiſted on paying a compoſition in lieu of tythes, which compoſition they eſtimated at only 120l. a year, though the tythe if taken in kind, would be equal to 400l. a year. The motive of the defendant in inſiſting on a compoſition, was his knowledge of the difficulty of proving the endowment of the chapelry—the original endowment had been loſt, but it was contained in the Harleian manuſcript. He admitted the Harleian manuſcript was not a medium of proof which could be received as evidence either in a court of law or equity, but, fortunately for the plaintiff, he had diſcovered a very ancient book marked A, and having on the firſt leaf theſe words—"Ab Anno 1270, uſq. annum 1391." This book had been found in the muniment room of the regiſtry of the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of St. Andrew in Wells. It contained a perfect copy in Latin of the act of endowment. The learned counſel then ſtated the terms of this document in the language in which it was couched. It was prefaced with the

the words "In nomine Dei Amen;" and as well as we were enabled to tranſlate, the ſenſe of it appeared to be dated from the year of the incarnation 1340, in the 9th indiction, on the 23d October. It was in the ſixth year of the pontificate of the moſt holy and reverend father in God, by divine providence, Pope Benedict the Twelfth, and purported to be an act of endowment in favour of John de St. Paul, as prepoſitus of the vicarage and chapelry of Wellington, and in conſideration of his obedience and ſubmiſſion to the Biſhop of Bath and Wells, granted to him and his ſucceſſors for ever, all the great and ſmall tythes, predial and mixed, of the vicarage.

The learned counſel having ſtated the caſe, proceeded to the proof of it, by putting in the ancient muniment we have mentioned.

Mr. Richards, for the defendant, objected to its admiſſion as evidence. He contended it had no title, which manifeſted its being a legal document.

The learned barons were, however, of opinion that, as the appearance of the muniment carried ſuch unequivocal internal proof of its high antiquity and authenticity: further, as it was corroborated by the Harleian manuſcript; as it had been found in the regiſtry of the cathedral church of St. Andrew, and as it appeared in the books and manuſcripts found in the libraries of deans and chapters, and had been frequently received as evidence, they were bound to admit it.

Accordingly, the act or bull of Pope Benedict the 12th was allowed to be complete evidence of the endowment of the chapelry, and the plaintiff had a judgment in his favour by which he will be entitled either to take his tythes in kind, or receive a compoſition at the rate of 400l. a year.

Account of the Hardſhips ſuſtained by Sir Joſeph Banks, Dr. Solander, and the Seamen with them, by the Severity of the Weather, at the Iſland of Terra del Fuego, in the ſouthern Extremity of America, though it was then January, or the Midſummer of that inhoſpitable Region.

SIR Joſeph (then Mr.) Banks, and Dr. Solander, were deſirous of availing themſelves of a fine day, which in that climate is very rare, even at that time of the year, to explore a country which had never been viſited by any botaniſt. For this purpoſe, they went on ſhore early in the morning, being twelve in company. They preſently found great and unexpected impediments in their progreſs, by deep ſwamps and thick underwood, ſo that they were till three o'clock in the afternoon employed in aſcending a mountain; when ſuddenly the air, which

had been till then ſerene and mild, became cold and piercing, and ſnow began to fall; notwithſtanding which they proceeded, in expectation of reaching the rocky part of the hill, which lay before them at a ſmall diſtance. This perſeverance was rewarded by finding a great variety of plants entirely unknown to botaniſts; the day, however, was now ſo far ſpent, that it was impoſſible to return to the ſhip that night: and the cold had by this time become very intenſe, and large quantities of ſnow had fallen, ſo that the moſt dreary proſpect preſented itſelf.

Whilſt they were proceeding in ſearch of the neareſt valley, Dr. Solander, who was well aware of the effects of intenſe cold, having paſſed over the mountains that divide Sweden and Norway, repreſented to the company the neceſſity they were under of continuing in motion, however they might feel themſelves attacked by laſſitude and ſluggiſhneſs; he aſſured them that whoever ſat down would ſleep, and whoever ſlept would wake no more.

They had not proceeded far before the effects apprehended began to be felt, and he who had thus cautioned others, was the firſt to declare himſelf unable to obſerve his own precept; at length, overcome by a ſtupor, he threw himſelf on the ground, although it was covered with ſnow. A black ſervant of Mr. Banks, named Richmond, next yielded to this fatal propenſity.

In this diſtreſs, five of the company were ſent forward to make a fire at the firſt convenient place they could find, whilſt the reſt continued with the doctor, making uſe of every means to keep him awake. The poor negro was ſo overcome with fatigue, that being told he muſt keep in motion or he would be frozen to death, replied, that he deſired only to lie down and die. At length all the endeavours of the company became ineffectual; their whole ſtrength was not ſufficient to carry their two exhauſted companions, ſo that they were ſuffered to ſit down, and in a ſhort time fell into a ſound ſleep. In a few minutes after news was brought that a fire was kindled at the diſtance of about a quarter of a mile. Dr. Solander was then waked with great difficulty; but during his ſhort ſleep, his muſcles were become ſo contracted, that his ſhoes fell off from his feet, and he had almoſt loſt the uſe of his limbs; but all attempts to wake the ſervant were ineffectual: two men, who ſeemed to have ſuffered the leaſt by the cold, were left to look after him, and in a ſhort time two others were ſent to their relief; one of the former rejoined the company, but the other was quite inſenſible; their companions therefore made them a bed of boughs, and ſpread the ſame covering over them to a conſiderable height, and in that ſituation left them.

The company paſſed the remainder of the night in a dreadful ſituation round the fire, ſuppoſing themſelves at a great diſtance from the ſhip, their way lying through a trackleſs wood, and they

unprovided

unprovided with refreſhments, their only proviſions being a vulture which they had ſhot in their journey. Nor did the dawn of day remove their apprehenſions; for at the approach of light nothing preſented itſelf to their view but a dreary expanſe of ſnow. It was not till ſix o'clock in the morning that they could diſcover the place of the ſun through the clouds, which then began ſomewhat to diſperſe.

With foreboding apprehenſions they went in ſearch of poor Richmond and the other man, whom they found quite dead; a dog which belonged to one of them was found alive ſtanding cloſe by his maſter's corpſe, which he unwillingly left to follow the company. The hardy nature of this animal enabled him to brave the ſeverity of the weather, and he was ſome years ago alive in England.

About eight o'clock the ſnow began to melt, and the company determined upon ſetting forward. Their hunger by this time became quite outrageous; having therefore ſkinned their vulture, they divided it into ten parts, every man dreſſing his own ſhare for himſelf. This ſcanty meal, which only furniſhed each perſon with a few mouthfuls, being finiſhed, they quitted their fireſide about ten o'clock, and no leſs unexpectedly than joyfully reached the beach, where the ſhip lay, in about three hours; for upon tracing their advances toward the hill the day before, they found that inſtead of aſcending in a direct line, they had almoſt gone round it.

ORIGIN *of* DUTCH FREEDOM.

WATER geuze was an epithet beſtowed on the Dutch patriots of that age by the oppreſſive Spaniards, on account of their being obliged to ſeek their ſubſiſtence on the water.

The cruel perſecution of the inquiſition drove thouſands of the moſt reſpectable proteſtants into exile, and confiſcated all their property. Thus cut off from all other reſources, they fitted out veſſels, and cruized againſt the commerce of the Hollanders, of whoſe heavy laden veſſels thirty-one were taken into England, by the month of March, 1571.

The Spaniſh miniſter made ſuch heavy complaints to Queen Elizabeth, that ſhe was obliged to order the water geuze to quit her territories. Count Vander Mark, their commander, put to ſea with thirty ſail of veſſels, and intended the capture of the Texel, but failing through contrary winds, he entered the Maeſe, and ſeized on the city Briel, 1ſt April, 1572, thus laying the firſt ſtone of the future ſtructure of Belgic freedom.

Kortebrand notes 104, 105, page 103—"Count Vander Mark was a moſt bitter enemy to thoſe diabolical fiends the papal

prieſts, who belonged to the infernal inquiſition: he cauſed ſome coins or medals to be ſtruck, on the one ſide ſtood—"*Ich wol der Papheit ſtraffen*," and on the reverſe—"*Gottes frund en aller, Paphen feians*."—i. e. "the prieſts I will puniſh," and "the friend of God, and foe to all prieſts."

He plundered the church and tore down the accurſed altars of theſe dæmons, more bloody than the druids in their gloomy groves. Many of them he hung, particularly ſome whom he had taken in the caſtle of Gorcum; thoſe he executed at the Briel. In 1573, the cold policy of the ſtates deprived their creator of all his commiſſions and authority, and he was plunged into the dungeons of the caſtle of Honingen near Rotterdam, and his lieutenant was barbarouſly hung, victims to policy, but not of juſtice; for God muſt have applauded the deed, had he extirpated thoſe ſons of blood and ruin to the laſt man, who had been the agents of ſuch ſuperlative cruelties on ſo many thouſands of innocent people.

At the requeſt of the Prince of Orange, Count Vander Mark was releaſed after ſix weeks confinement, and retired to Flanders, where he ſhortly died of poiſon.

It is notorious that the chief reaſon why Amſterdam and Schoonhoven held ſo long with the Spaniards, was owing to the execution of the prieſts by Count Vander Mark.

The CAUSE *of* ORIGINALITY PLEADED.

REASONS there are why talents may not appear, none why they may not exiſt, as much in one period as another: an evocation of vegetable fruits depends on rain, air, and ſun; an evocation of the fruits of genius no leſs depends on externals. What a marvellous crop bore it in Greece and Rome, and what a marvellous ſunſhine did it there enjoy! What encouragement from the nature of their governments and the ſpirit of their people! Virgil and Horace owed their divine talents to Heaven, their immortal works to men—thank Mæcenas and Auguſtus for them. Had it not been for theſe, the genius of thoſe poets had lain buried in their aſhes. Athens expended on her theatre, painting, ſculpture, and architecture, a tax levied for the ſupport of a war. Cæſar dropped his papers when Tully ſpoke, and Philip trembled at the voice of Demoſthenes: and has there ariſen but one Tully, one Demoſthenes, in ſo long a courſe of years? The powerful eloquence of them both in one ſtream ſhould never bear me down into the melancholy perſuaſion, that ſeveral have not been born, though they have not emerged. The ſun as much exiſts in a cloudy day as in a clear; it is outward accidental circumſtances, that with regard to genius either in nation or age,

"*Collectas fugat nubes, ſolemque reducit.*" VIRG.

Anſwer, by Recluſe, of Awliſcombe, to T. Jarvis's Charade inſerted November 9.

IN your charade 'tis clearly ſeen,
It is a FRUIT-TREE that you mean.

Anſwer, by W. Brutton, of Kingſbridge, to Juvenis's Charade, inſerted Dec. 13.

DEATH-BED to wretched ſinners gives great pain;
Truſt in the Lord, and you'll not truſt in vain.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Channon, of Ottery; John Chubb, of Everſhot; T. Boult, W. Strong, J. Squance, and H. Humphreys, of Exeter; J. Bloomfield, and T. Adey, of Poole; J. Whittle, of Upway; W. Bickham, jun. and W. Mann, jun. of Aſhburton; A. D. near Bridport; R. E. Reynolds, jun. of Yeovil; Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; W. Pollard, of Egloſhayle; W. Gilford, South Petherton; and T. Bullock, of St. Columb.

Anſwer, by A. D. near Bridport, to R. Berry's Charade, inſerted December 13.

AN INK-HORN is the thing you mean,
As in your charade may be ſeen.

*** We have received the like anſwer from J. Channon, of Ottery; John Chubb, of Everſhot; W. Strong, T. Boult, and H. Humphreys, of Exeter; J. Bloomfield, and T. Adey, of Poole; J. Whittle, of Upway; W. Brutton, of Kingſbridge; W. Mann, and W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; R. E. Reynolds, jun. of Yeovil; W. Pollard, of Egloſhayle; W. Gilford, of South Petherton; T. Bullock, of St. Columb; and J. O. Zillwood, of Dorcheſter.

A REBUS, *by Reginald, of Dorcheſter.*

MY firſt's a crime too common far,
Too black almoſt to mention;
My next a ſolid metal, hard,
Not of my own invention.

A bird of night then you will ſee,
A bird that blinks and cries;
Laſtly a beaſt ſwift in its pace,
That thro' the foreſt flies:

Theſe lines when join'd aright,
A lordly beaſt you'll have in ſight.

An ENIGMA, *by P. Gove, of Exeter.*

BRIGHT as the ſun's all-chearing beams,
Whoſe vivifying ray
Gilds the wide earth and flowing ſtreams,
And ſheds the golden ray:

So I appear with luſtre great,
Before my ſhrine doth fly,
All treachery and baſe deceit,
And vile hypocriſy.

Take me, ye youths, to be your guide,
Do not my paths forſake,
For know all thoſe who me deride,
Shall not of bliſs partake.

POETRY.

ODE *for the* NEW YEAR, 1803.

By H. J. PYE, *Esq. Poet-Laureat.*

THO' the tempeſtuous winds no more,
The main with angry pinions ſweep,
Tho' raging 'gainſt the ſounding ſhore
No longer howl the impetuous ſeas;
But ſooth'd to reſt, the billows ſleep,
Save where ſoft zephyr's tepid breeze
Fans with its ſilken wing the rippling deep;
Yet ſtill with unremitting eye
The pilot marks the uncertain ſky,
The ſeaman watches ſtill the gale,
Prompt or to ſpread or furl the ſail,
Mindful of many a danger paſt,
Toſs'd by the turbid wave, check'd by the adverſe blaſt.

Not keen ſuſpicion's jealous glance,
Not fierce contention's feveriſh rage,
Shall bid Britannia point the lance,
New realms to graſp, new wars to wage.
In conſcious rectitude elate,
In conſcious power ſecurely great,
While ſhe beholds the dangerous tide
Of battle's crimſon wave ſubſide,
Tho' firm ſhe ſtand in act to dare
The ſtorms of renovated war,
Her ready ſword, her lifted ſhield,
Provoke not the enſanguin'd field,
More than the wary pilot's cautions urge
The wind's tempeſtuous ſtrife, or ſwell the foaming ſurge.

O from our ſhores be exil'd far
Ambition's wild and reſtleſs crew,
Who thro' the bleeding paths of war
Falſe glory's dæmon-form purſue;
Whoſe burning thirſt, ſtill unſubdued
By deluges of guiltleſs blood,
Glares on the regions round with fiend-like eyes,
While ſcarce a vanquiſh'd world its wiſh ſupplies;
Yet ne'er may ſloth's inglorious charm
Unnerve the manly Briton's arm,
Nor ſophiſtry's inſidious art
E'er lull the manly Briton's heart.
May peace, with plenty by her ſide,
Long, long, o'er Albion's fields preſide;
Long may her breath, with placid gale,
Of commerce ſwell the happy ſail;
But rous'd in juſtice' ſacred cauſe,
Inſulted rights or violated laws,
Still may her ſons, with fierce delight,
Flame in the gleamy van of fight,
Spread o'er the tented plain, or brave
With warlike prow the hoſtile wave;
And on each firm ingenuous breaſt
Be this eternal truth impreſs'd,

Peace

Peace only ſheds perennial joys on thoſe
Who guard with dauntleſs arm the bleſſings peace beſtows.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

Intereſting Picture of a Cottage, and its Inhabitants, written by a Girl only twelve Years old.

ON the brow of yon hill is a neat rural cot,
Whoſe latch you may lift without fear;
Tho' its owners partake of obſcurity's lot,
Felicity ſays—" I dwell here."
Then ſtay your reſearches a moment or two,
And contemplate the ruſtic's retreat,
Turn which way you will, you will find ſomething new,
Tho' it is not of grandeur the ſeat.
What a well-manag'd garden ſurrounds the abode,
How well all its ſtores are diſpos'd;
Obſerve how the ſide that comes neareſt the road
By a neat quickſet hedge is incloſ'd.
The exterior part of this plain little pile
Attracts ev'ry paſſenger's ſight;
And the ivy, which climbs in a negligent ſtile,
Has equall'd the thatch in its height.
The walls are within of a delicate white,
The floor of ſmooth pavement is made;
On a ſhelf in a corner's the Chriſtian's delight,
A Bible and Teſtament laid.
Partly furniſh'd with wicker, and partly with oak,
Its faſhion I cannot reſound;
But if neatneſs itſelf you would wiſh to invoke,
In this cottager's manſion 'tis found.
When the evening is come, round a cheerful wood fire,
You an innocent circle may ſee
Of ſome roſy fac'd prattlers expecting their ſire,
All anxious to ſit on his knee.
Then the matron appears, in her dark ruſſet gown,
With a countenance calm and ſerene;
With a ſmile which but ſeldom gives place to a frown,
And where ſadneſs but ſeldom is ſeen.
Having ſtirr'd up the fire, and bruſh'd in the hearth,
She places the tea-kettle on;
And while's ſhe's amus'd by her little one's mirth,
The time's imperceptibly gone.
When the hour ſo anxiouſly wiſh'd for is come,
And the fond mother fancies ſhe hears
The ſtep of her partner—the children are dumb,
Till their well-belov'd father appears.
Then up they all ſtart, in affectionate haſte,
All equally ready to prove,
That his tender regard is not giv'n in waſte,
But meets a return of their love.
Then as ſoon as he's ſeated, his innocents try
Which firſt can obtain the fond kiſs—
Now if you a reaſon can find, tell me why
The cottager's ſtate is not bliſs?
When the mother has cut from her homely brown bread,
For each of her prattlers a ſlice;
And her ſweet ſmiling infant has carefully fed,
A little weak tea will ſuffice.
After chatting awhile o'er the embers of fire,
They join in thankſgiving and pray'r;
Then with hearts free from guilt, they with pleaſure retire,
For another new day to prepare.

CLIO.